

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 10 Feb 52

SUBJECT Soviet Experiments with Penicillin

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1C

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

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1. [REDACTED] obtained the following information from a former medical student who was sentenced to four years' forced labor. The student then volunteered for experimental treatment and was taken from the Vorkuta coal mines in the Vologda Central Hospital. He added that the methods of recuperation and regeneration of using (sic) penicillin, streptomycin, etc., are also being keenly investigated at these hospitals. He was lucky enough to be treated with an already "successful" solvent and was released after the cure both from the hospital and from his penal servitude because his term of punishment had expired in the meantime.
2. Penicillin production in the USSR and in the satellite states is considerably below the level of war necessity. It is for this reason that Soviet scientists have been working on methods which would allow maximum economy in the use of penicillin and streptomycin.
3. Since 1948 in three hospitals in the USSR large experiments have been made in the use of diluted penicillin. The forced labor camp dispensaries in Northern European Russia received orders to send a specified number of prisoners with definite illnesses to these three hospitals. Persons selected by the camp doctors were given a few days' rest to be put in shape and then were dispatched to Vologda, Leningrad, and Moscow, for "experimental treatment."
4. The experiments were concerned with the evaluation of the effectiveness of penicillin when diluted with various solvents prior to injection. In the initial stages several patients died, but the problem had apparently been solved by the end of 1950.
5. The penicillin doses used internally were much smaller as the solvent (a colorless liquid in ampoules bearing the name Campolon on the box labels) apparently has the property of increasing the influence of the penicillin diluted in it and of slowing down its absorption (by body tissues). Thus, not only could the penicillin be economized but the injections could be given much less frequently than with normal penicillin - twice in 24 hours.

Document No.	006
No Change In Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Declassified	<input type="checkbox"/>
Class. Changed To:	TS S (C)
Auth.	HR 10-2
Date:	24 Aug 78
By:	P/8